



Essential food commodities being sold at subsidised rates through a dealer of state-run Trading Corporation of Bangladesh on Eskaton Garden Road in the capital yesterday. Each person registering with their local city corporation unit can avail two litres of edible oil, five kilogrammes of rice and two kilogrammes of lentils every month. PHOTO: STAR

Stocks rise after falling for two days

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

The broad index of Dhaka Stock Exchange (DSE) bounced back yesterday on falling on the preceding two days.

The DSEX, the benchmark index of the country's premier bourse, rose 23.43 points, or 0.44 percent, from that on the day before to close at 5,251.96 yesterday.

Similarly, the DSES, the index that represents the Shariah-compliant companies, grew 4.74 points, or 0.41 percent, to 1,143.70 points.

Meanwhile, the DS30, the index that comprises blue-chip scrips, jumped 4.90 points, or 0.26 percent, to 1,874.84.

However, Chittagong Stock Exchange

saw the opposite with the Caspi, the main index of the port city bourse, dropping 12.379 points, or 0.08 percent, to close at 15,072.20.

According to the daily market update of UCB Stock Brokerage, the DSE ended the day with an increase in turnover.

Turnover, meaning the total value of shares changing hands on a day, which gives an indication of the amount of trading activity, stood at Tk 37.5 crore, an increase of 22.11 percent from that on the previous day of trade.

The pharmaceuticals sector dominated the turnover chart accounting for 17.49 percent of it.

Travel and leisure, food and allied and

ceramics sectors ended in the positive while tannery, jute and telecom in the negative, added UCB Stock Brokerage.

Of the issues that changed hands on the DSE, 213 edged higher, 126 dropped, and 50 did not see any price movement.

Trust Islami Life Insurance took the top position on the gainers' list with a rise of 10 percent, followed by Global Heavy Chemicals and Bangladesh Industrial Finance Company with more than 9 percent each.

Oimex Electrode, Tung Hai Knitting & Dyeing, Sonargaon Textiles and Zahintex Industries were also on the list.

Square Pharmaceuticals, British American Tobacco Bangladesh, Orion

Pharma, LafargeHolcim Bangladesh, Orion Infusion, GPH Ispat, Olympic Industries, National Bank, Unique Hotel & Resorts and Power Grid Company of Bangladesh also made gains.

BRAC Bank, Grameenphone, Beacon Pharmaceuticals, Eastern Bank, Jamuna Bank, IFIC Bank, Khan Brothers PP Woven Bag Industries, Bata Shoe Company (Bangladesh) and Beximco Pharmaceuticals suffered losses.

Trust Bank shed the most, losing 4.94 percent. Trading of the bank's shares was suspended on May 29 for it being record date, meaning the day a company finalises the list of shareholders eligible for its forthcoming dividend distribution.

Bangladeshis eat 136 eggs a year, it's 400 in developed world

Experts say

STAR BUSINESS REPORT

People in Bangladesh consume 136 eggs every year whereas the number is as high as 400 in the case of developed countries, experts said at an event.

Moreover, Bangladeshis consume just one-third of the chicken meat that people in developed countries eat in a year and the per capita daily availability of milk in Bangladesh is only 222 millilitres, down from 250ml in the advanced world, they said.

So, there is no alternative to increasing the per capita availability of eggs, milk and meat in the country to reach the goal of building a Smart Bangladesh by 2041, they added.

The experts made the comments at a seminar on the "Doctors' dialogue on right to protein" held in the capital yesterday. It was jointly organised by the Bangladesh University of Health Sciences, Bangladesh Poultry Industries Central Council and US Soybean Export Council.

Low per capita income is responsible for protein or nutrition deficiencies, but a lack of awareness plays a big role here, Faridul Alam, vice-chancellor of the Bangladesh University of Health Sciences, said at the event.

The United States and Europe have always topped the Olympic medal table because they consume enough protein, said Biplob Kumar Pramanik, general secretary of the Bangladesh branch of the World's Poultry Science Association.

There are many misconceptions about eggs and milk, said Shamsun Nahar Nahid Mohua, chief nutritionist of Birdem Hospital.

For example, there are unfounded concerns that consuming eggs and milk causes heart problems, weight gain and raise blood pressure, she said.

But the thing is eggs and milk are actually super foods, she said.

STOCKS	
DSEX ▲	CASPI ▼
0.29%	0.29%
22,277.97	22,277.97

COMMODITIES	
Gold ▼	Oil ▼
\$2,334.07	\$78.82
(per ounce)	(per barrel)

Buyers shift to Delhi airport

FROM PAGE B1

domestic routes of Bangladesh could not become competitive because of escalated high tariffs, Alam said.

Kabir Ahmed, president of the Bangladesh Freight Forwarders Association, described the freight charge at the Dhaka airport as extremely high.

The use of the Delhi airport allows exporters to save 40 US cents to 50 US cents per kg even after carrying goods from Dhaka to the capital of India, he said.

Air shipments have increased after cargo-laden commercial vessels using the traditional route of the Suez Canal of the Red Sea, the main seaway for

transportation of goods between Asia and Europe, have come under Houthi attacks since October last year.

The increased arrival of cargoes from Bangladesh has put pressure on the Delhi airport.

As a result, India-originated goods can't be shipped on time, exporters in the neighbouring country have alleged.

They have already demanded Delhi impose extra charges on Bangladeshi goods to discourage them from using the airport.

Industry people say any airport can impose extra tariffs if it deems fit. Airlines in Dhaka also increase charges when the flow of

cargoes rises. Such a spike is, however, temporary.

SM Mannan Kochi, president of the Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association, doesn't think exports will be affected if the Delhi airport imposes any additional charges on Bangladeshi goods.

The cost of operation will increase, he, however, admitted.

This is because international buyers usually bear the freight charge since local suppliers send goods under the freight-on-board arrangement.

The cargo village at the HSI is struggling to meet the rising demand. Currently, it has the capacity to store 400 tonnes of

exportable goods whereas daily shipment averages 800 tonnes during normal times and surges to 1,200 tonnes during peak times.

Users have also long complained about thefts of goods from the tiny cargo village, products left unattended, and the deterioration of the quality of items.

Qatar and Etihad used to carry cargoes from the HSI in dedicated flights even a few years ago. Now, they have either suspended their flights or reduced their capacity.

About 60 percent of all cargoes transported by air from Bangladesh are carried by passenger aircraft, while the remaining by exclusive cargo flights.

Business environment

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the government needs to pay heed to this, according to Reaz.

"If the business environment in the country's commercial capital does not improve, Bangladesh will hardly be able to harness the benefits of businesses, trading activities will not operate well while investments will not pick up."

He said there is a need to target field-level service delivery arrangements of regulators.

The BBX 2023-2024 report evaluates the comprehensive business environment, the ecosystem, uncertainties, disruptions in the global supply chain, and the escalating geopolitical tension arising from the

Russia-Ukraine war and the Israel-Hamas war, said MCCI President Kamran T Rahman.

"The study now encompasses 12 key industrial sectors aiming to identify the right policies and reforms to stay competitive in the global market. It will assist investors and policymakers with industry-specific action programmes."

Salman Fazlur Rahman, private industry and investment adviser to the prime minister, said almost all indicators posted a decline and this was disappointing.

He admitted that there are major challenges in the

tax payment environment and regarding the National Board of Revenue.

The adviser said he has always supported widening the tax net and reducing the tax rates to generate more revenue since the government is facing a tight fiscal situation.

Nihad Kabir, a former president of the MCCI, called for making tax payments hassle-free for the business community.

Zaved Akhtar, president of the Foreign Investors' Chamber of Commerce and Industry, emphasised "three Cs" – credibility, consistency and capability – of policies to

attract more foreign direct investments.

"For instance, if a new company wants to do business here, it requires 150 approvals to start a venture."

He described the tax framework as complex and the VAT framework as complicated. "There is a need to simplify tax payments."

Yuji Ando, country representative of the Japan External Trade Organisation (Jetro) in Bangladesh, said 62 percent of Japanese companies operating in the country want to expand their footprint as they see the country as a promising destination to do business.

Government of the People's Republic of Bangladesh
Office of the Jail Super
Noakhali District Jail
www.prison.noakhali.gov.bd

Memo No. 58.04.7500.123.04.001.2024-2288/5 Date: 30-05-2024

e-Tender Notice

This is to notify all concern that the following tender is invited in the National e-GP Portal.

Sl. No.	Tender ID No.	Name of goods	Publishing date & time	Closing date & time
01	992196	Supply of Dietary Article to Noakhali District Jail for the period of July/2024 to December/2024	Package-1 28/05/2024 & 15:30	Package-1 12/06/2024 & 13:00
02	992250		Package-2 28/05/2024 & 15:30	Package-2 12/06/2024 & 13:10
03	992287		Package-5 28/05/2024 & 15:30	Package-5 12/06/2024 & 13:20
04	992445		Package-6 28/05/2024 & 15:30	Package-6 12/06/2024 & 13:30
05	992453		Package-7 28/05/2024 & 15:30	Package-7 12/06/2024 & 13:40
06	992579		Package-8 28/05/2024 & 15:30	Package-8 12/06/2024 & 13:50
07	992586		Package-9 28/05/2024 & 15:30	Package-9 12/06/2024 & 14:00
08	992681		Package-10 28/05/2024 & 15:30	Package-10 12/06/2024 & 14:10
09	992728		Package-11 28/05/2024 & 15:30	Package-11 12/06/2024 & 14:20
10	992769		Package-12 28/05/2024 & 15:30	Package-12 12/06/2024 & 14:30
11	992835		Package-13 28/05/2024 & 15:30	Package-13 12/06/2024 & 14:40

This is an online tender where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted. To submit e-Tender registration in the National e-GP System Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP System Portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank's branches up to 09:00 on 12 June, 2024.

Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP System Portal and from e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

Md. Golam Dastagir
Jail Super
Noakhali district Jail
jailsuper.noakhali@gmail.com

Dollar trades around 2-week high

REUTERS, London/Tokyo

The dollar held steady on Thursday after rising to a two-week high as a rout in US Treasuries pushed up yields, boosting the currency's allure.

The index tracking the US currency against its major peers climbed to 105.18 overnight, the highest since May 14, and was slightly lower at 105.05 in early European trading.

A two-day, 15-basis point jump above 4.6 percent for long-term Treasury yields helped push the dollar higher. The rise in yields, which move inversely to prices, has been driven by a spate of stronger-than-expected data, tough words from Federal Reserve officials, and a run of poorly received bond auctions.

The euro suffered as US yields rose, dropping 0.5 percent on Wednesday to touch a two-week low of \$1.0789 overnight before bouncing somewhat to \$1.0806.

Gas supply falls

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More than half of the country's people faced power outages as electric poles, substations, and spans were affected.

The supply started increasing the following day and stood at 13,000MW yesterday, with around 500MW load-shedding.

Petrobangla data shows that they have reduced gas supply to the power sector to 900 mmcf from

more than 1,200 mmcf for the past one and a half months.

Due to the sensitive and explosive nature of handling LNG and the national importance of FSRU in terms of gas supply to the national grid, Summit and the FSRU operator are taking all precautions to rectify the matter before resuming normal operations, the statement read.

Khulna Development Authority
Khulna
www.kda.gov.bd

Memo No: 25.41.0000.021.0241.2024-2797 Date: 28.05.2024

Re-Tender (e-Tender) Notice (OTM)

e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP system Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) for the Procurement of following works, details are given below.

Sl. No	Name of work	Tender Package No	Re-Tender ID No	Tender Last selling (date & time)	Tender Opening (date & time)
1.	Construction of 2.70 km long (2 lane) link road from Bastuhara Road to Old Sathkhira Road (including Road works, Culvert, Retaining Wall, Protection works, Plantation etc)	KDA/3link/WD-4/2023-24	991635	23-Jun-2024 17:00	24-Jun-2024 14:00

This is an online Tender, where only e-Tender will be accepted in the National e-GP Portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

To submit e-Tender, registration in the National e-GP system Portal (<http://www.eprocure.gov.bd>) is required. The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the National e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered Banks branches Further information and guidelines are available in the National e-GP system portal and e-GP help desk (helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd).

(Mortoza Al Mamun)
Project Director
3link Road Project
&
Executive Engineer (Project) (C.C)
Khulna Development Authority, Khulna.
e-mail: kda.khulna@gmail.com